

Remarks and Arguments

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action dated October 8, 2003 and the references cited therein. Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the application.

Claims 1-3, 6-16 and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,151,643, hereafter Cheng, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,260,077, Rangarajan et al., hereafter Rangarajan. As to claim 1, the Examiner alleges that Cheng discloses all of the recited limitations except that the Examiner admits that Cheng does not explicitly teach an *event listener and announcing the data change*. Regarding Cheng's admitted failure to disclose announcing the data change, the Examiner alleges, instead, that Cheng teaches that the service provider computer keeps information on when the client computer finishes updating. The Examiner further alleges that one of ordinary skill in the art would conclude that the client computer would announce to the server computer that the updating has been done; therefore the server computer knows exactly the date and time of the finished job.

Applicants respectfully traversing the Examiner's rejections for the following reasons. Claim 1 has been previously amended to recites "announcing the data change to the *registered application from which the data was originally obtained*" (claim 1, lines 13-14). For greater clarity, the same limitation has now been reworded to recite "*announcing to the participating application from which the data was originally obtained that the data has changed*" (claim 1, lines 13-14). There is no disclosure or teaching of such functionality within Cheng. In Cheng, the client application 104 installs, *but does not change*, the update data received from the software vendor computer system 103. The fact that the service provider computer 102 keeps the date and time when the update process was completed by the client application 104 is of no relevance to the above described limitation. In order to satisfy the above described limitation, according to the Examiner's analogy, the client application 104 would have to change the update data and such change would be announced to the software vendor computer system 103 that the update data had changed. The Examiner has not shown where Cheng teaches, discloses or suggest such limitations. In Cheng, the client application 104

installs, *but does not change*, the update data received from the software vendor computer system 103. If other of the client applications 104 in Cheng request update data, the same update data will be provided by the software vendor computer system 103, notwithstanding prior installation of the same update data by another of the client applications 104. Further, the Examiner will note that the motivation of the present invention is not to provide the exact date and time that an updating job is finished, but instead to provide a virtual bus structure in which data consumers and data producers can exchange data over the virtual bus through a series of events which are monitored (listened for). Notification of a data *change* to a participating application from which the data originated is part of the virtual bus protocol.

In light of the foregoing amendments and arguments, and by the Examiner's own admissions, claim 1 is believed allowable over Cheng, whether considered singularly or in combination with Rangarajan, or any other reference of record. Claims 4 through 8 include all the limitations of amended claim 1 and are believed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations.

Claim 14 has been similarly amended and now recites a computer program product concluding "*program code for announcing across the information bus to the registered application from which the data was originally obtained that the data has changed*" (claim 14, lines 17-19). In light of the foregoing amendments and arguments, and by the Examiner's own admissions, claim 14 is now believed allowable over Cheng, whether considered singularly or in combination with Rangarajan, or any other reference of record, for at least the same reasons as claim 1, as well as on the merits of its own respective limitations. Claims 16 through 21 include all the limitations of amended claim 14 and are similarly believed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 14, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations.

Claim 9 has been cancelled, without prejudice, and its respective limitations integrated into claim 11. Specifically, claim 11 now recites an apparatus for use with an application retrieving data across an information bus from other applications sharing the information bus, including data notification logic "configured to announce across the information bus to the participating application from which the data element originated that the data has changed" (claim 11, lines 11-14). As such, claim 11 has been

amended to recite limitations "similar to claims 1 and 14. In light of the foregoing amendments and arguments, and by the Examiner's own admissions, claim 11 is also believed allowable over Cheng, whether considered singularly or in combination with Rangarajan, or any other reference of record, for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 14, as well as on the merits of its own respective limitations. Claims 12 and 13, which have been amended to depend from claim 11, include all limitations of amended claim 11 and are similarly believed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 11, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations.

Regarding Cheng's admitted failure to disclose an event listener, the Examiner is relying on Rangarajan, alleging that Rangarajan teaches an event listener (an event listener, column 9, lines 24) for monitoring announcements and notifications (column 9, lines 34-38). The Examiner further states that "It would have been obvious to apply the teachings of Rangarajan to the system of Cheng because this allows a registered client to receive event notifications from a source as disclosed by Rangarajan (lines 8-84, column 9)". The Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections for the following reasons. Even assuming that the combination of the Cheng and Rangarajan references was proper, and that Rangarajan discloses an event listener, as alleged, both assumptions of which Applicants respectfully disagrees, claims 1, 9 and 14, and their respective depending claims, are believed allowable over the combination of Cheng and Rangarajan in light of the foregoing amendments thereto.

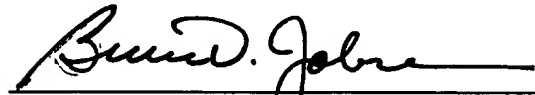
Claims 4-5, 7 and 17-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng in view of Rangarajan, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,356,948, Barnett. Barnett does not compensate for the Examiner's admitted deficiencies in the Cheng reference or the disclosure relied upon in the Rangarajan patent. Accordingly, these claims are believed allowable for the reasons set forth above.

Applicants respectfully reassert all of the remarks and traversals set forth in prior responses to the extent still relevant to the outstanding rejections.

Applicants believe the claims are in allowable condition. A notice of allowance for this application is solicited earnestly. If the Examiner has any further questions regarding this amendment, he/she is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the number

listed below. The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any balances under 37 CFR §1.17, and 1.16 to Deposit Account No. DA-12-2158.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: _____

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